

***Remarks***

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16-18, 20-32, 35-65, 67, and 68 are pending in the application, with 6, 13, 18, 38 and 60 being the independent claims. Claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 15, 19, 33, 34, and 66 were previously cancelled. Claims 18, 20-32, and 35-37 were previously withdrawn.

The Examiner has stated that claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 38-64 are directed to at least three patentably distinct species of the claimed invention (Applicants note that claims 65, 67, and 68 are also pending, and will be thus included in the discussion herein). According to the Examiner, these include:

Embodiment I (claims 6, 7, 9, 50, 60-65, 67, and 68), directed to a semiconductor package having a ball grid array package with a substrate with a window opening, heat spreader, ring stiffener, wire bond and die;

Embodiment II (claims 13, 16, 17, and 52-59), directed to a semiconductor device having a ball grid array package with a substrate, heat spreader, ring stiffener, and a die mounted in a flip-chip configuration; and

Embodiment III (claims 3, 4, 10, 12, 38-49 and 51), directed to a semiconductor device having a ball grid array package with a substrate, heat spreader, ring stiffener, and a die having opposing surfaces, said first surface of said IC die including at least one contact pad, said second surface of said IC die being mounted to said first surface of said substrate.

Applicants have elected to prosecute claims 13, 16, 17, and 52-59 related to Embodiment II, without traverse.

Applicants note that the present application has been subject to five Office Actions, including three Office Actions on the merits, and two restriction requirements (including the present Office Action). Applicants strongly request that the Examiner and her supervisor do whatever is possible to move the prosecution of this case forward with a view to finally concluding its prosecution (see M.P.E.P. § 707.02, "The supervisory patent examiners are expected to personally check on the pendency of every application which is up for the third or subsequent official action with a view to finally concluding its prosecution."). Applicants' representative stands ready to work with the Examiner toward this goal. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Election is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Jeffrey S. Weaver  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 45,608

Date: 5 - 21 - 04

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934  
(202) 371-2600